

REMARKS

The rejection of Claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 101 is rendered moot by the cancellation of the claim.

Also thus mooted is the rejection of Claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph.

Claims 1 and 6-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Hesse et al (U.S. Patent 6,177,538).

U.S. Patent 6,177,538 is not available as a 102(e) document in the present context. The presently submitted certified translation of the priority document of the present application is believed to address the stated rejection.

Claims 2-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Hesse et al (U.S. Patent 6,177,538).

U.S. Patent 6,177,538 is not available as a 103(a) document in the present context. The presently submitted certified translation of the priority document of the present application is believed to address the stated rejection.

Believing the above represent a complete response to the Office Action and that the application is in condition for allowance, Applicants request the earliest issuance of an indication to this effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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